UNITED
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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/925
S/22073
14 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 23
QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 14 January 1991 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I would like to draw your most urgent attention to the growing dangers faced by the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, at this time of heightened tension in the region and to express the Committee's apprehension and deep concern at the possible tragic repercussions of a war in the Gulf for their safety and protection.

In an urgent appeal for the protection of Palestinians dated 11 January 1991, the Palestine Human Rights Information Centre of the Arab Studies Society at Jerusalem has stated that there are indications that a mass transfer of Palestinians could be carried out in the event of war. The newspaper Hadashot of 10 January 1991 was reported to have disclosed that, according to information leaked by settler circles to the Peace Now movement, settlers serving in military reserve units in the West Bank are planning a "mass evacuation" of Palestinians if war breaks out. A former head of Israeli military intelligence, writing in The Jerusalem Post of 8 January 1991, was reported to have pointed out that in a war situation Israel could be expected to lift all moral and legal restraints on the Israeli Defence Forces in the occupied territory and that this could very likely result in a new mass exodus of Palestinians to the east.

The New York Times reported on 14 January 1991 that prominent Palestinian physicians at Jerusalem in a press conference stressed the inadequacy and unpreparedness of the medical system in the occupied territories for treating victims of war. Their overriding concern, however, was that a state of chaos would be used as a cover by Israel to carry out mass killings and forcible transfer of

READEX FICHE

Palestinians while international attention was focused elsewhere. The paper also reported that it was expected that in the event of war the occupied territories would be immediately placed under full curfew, thus denying access to journalists and human rights observers.

The Palestinians' deep sense of vulnerability and fear for the future is further aggravated by the dramatic deterioration of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory in recent weeks, as shown by the rapid increase in Palestinian casualties and the recent deportation by Israel of four activists from the Gaza Strip in total disregard for the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The experience of previous wars in the region and since the beginning of the intifadah shows in no uncertain terms that Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian territory face a real threat, which must be urgently and firmly addressed by the Security Council and by the international community as a whole. On behalf of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I appeal urgently to you and to all concerned to take immediately all necessary action to ensure the safety and protection of Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, in all circumstances.

I would like to request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 23, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Absa Claude DIALLO
Chairman
Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights
of the Palestinian People

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/926
S/22074
15 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH AND
FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 35 and 153
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED
OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT
VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE
UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 14 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith, in English and French, the text of the declaration on the Gulf question issued today by the European Community and its 12 member States.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 35 and 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jean FEYDER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Declaration on the Gulf crisis published in Brussels on 14 January 1991 by the Twelve States members of the European Community

Following a meeting between the President of the Council and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the European Community were informed of the substance of the conversations of Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar with the President and Foreign Minister of Iraq.

They note that the Secretary-General will this evening report on his mission to the Security Council of the United Nations, which will have the task of evaluating the results.

For their part, the Community and its member States have from the beginning of the Gulf crisis supported unreservedly the full and unconditional implementation of the relevant resolutions of the Security Council.

They have spared no effort in exploring all paths to a peaceful solution in conformity with these resolutions. In this spirit, the European Community had made known its readiness to meet at the level of the troika of Foreign Ministers the Iraqi Foreign Minister, Mr. Tariq Aziz, first in the Presidency capital and then in Algiers.

Through the Presidency statement of 4 January 1991, the Twelve had clearly indicated that if the resolutions of the Security Council were fully and unconditionally implemented, Iraq should receive the assurance that it would not be subject to a military intervention.

In the same statement, the Twelve had also clearly reaffirmed their commitment to contribute actively to the settlement of the other problems of the region and to establish a situation of security, stability and development, as soon as the Gulf crisis is resolved.

On the occasion of the Rome European Council on 15 December 1990, the European Community and its member States had indicated that they remained completely in favour of the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East at the appropriate moment.

It is a fact that unfortunately must be acknowledged that the readiness thus displayed to contribute to a peaceful solution of the crisis opening the way to an equitable settlement of all the other problems of the region has not, up to this point, received a response from the Iraqi authorities.

In the face of the continued refusal of the Iraqi authorities to implement the resolutions of the Security Council and in the absence of any signal in this sense, the European Community and its member States regret to have to conclude that the conditions for a new European initiative do not exist as at this moment.

Nevertheless, the invitation to Mr. Tariq Aziz to meet the ministerial troika remains on the table.

The European Community and its member States are conscious of having done everything that was possible to find a peaceful exit from the crisis. They remain determined to explore all possibilities for the preservation of peace in the respect of international legality. In this context, they request Arab countries and organizations to continue to devote every effort to bringing the Iraqi authorities to understand that it is in the interest of Iraq, as of the whole Arab world, that it should abide by the resolutions of the Security Council.

Ministers have asked the Presidency to stay in close contact with all parties concerned.

Ministers and their political directors will remain in permanent touch in the coming days to follow the course of the crisis and take any necessary decisions.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/927
S/22081
16 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 23
QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 15 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to communicate to you herewith the official statement issued by the State of Kuwait on the incident involving the murder of Mr. Salah Khalaf and Mr. Hayil Abd al-Hamid, members of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 23, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement by an official Kuwaiti spokesman concerning the murder of Mr. Salah Khalaf and Mr. Hayil Abd al-Hamid on 14 January 1991

Kuwait condemns in the strongest terms the assassination of Mr. Salah Khalaf and Mr. Hayil Abd al-Hamid, two of the leaders of the Palestinian Fatah movement. There fell victim to this criminal act two Palestinian leaders of the Fatah movement, which arose, flourished and undertook its first activities inside Kuwait in the 1960s, and Kuwait affirms that it is yet another indication of the endeavour of the enemies of the Arab nation and those who harbour feelings of hatred against it to extinguish the torch of the Palestinian struggle.

Such criminal acts will never succeed in stifling the voice of the Palestinian people or destroying its aspirations for freedom, justice and the right to self-determination. At a time when its people has been undergoing the bitter experience of occupation for more than five months, ever since Iraq's invasion of their homeland and their expulsion therefrom, Kuwait nevertheless affirms, despite this bitter ordeal, its full and absolute commitment to supporting its brothers in the occupied Palestinian territories with all its power.

Kuwait, through its Amir, its Government and its people, offers its most heartfelt condolences to the families of Mr. Khalaf and Mr. Abd al-Hamid.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/928
16 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 35 and 153

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 15 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit, in my capacity as Chairman of the Islamic Group, the appeal of His Excellency Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, issued on 14 January 1991 (see annex), and kindly request that it be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 35 and 153.

(Signed) Amre MOUSSA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Appeal of His Excellency Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, issued at Jeddah on 14 January 1991

Bismillah Ar Rahman Ar Rahim

"If two parties among
The Believers fall into
A quarrel, make Ye peace
Between them: but if
One of them transgresses
Beyond bounds against the other,
Then fight Ye (all) against
The one that transgresses
Until it complies with
The command of God ...
The Believers are but
A single Brotherhood:
So make peace and
Reconciliation between your
Two (contending) brothers;
And fear God, that Ye
May receive Mercy."

(Sura Hujurat, XLIX 9-10)

We, who are brothers in Islam, having declared, both heart and soul, our submission to the will of the Almighty Allah, believing in His Message and determined to follow in all respects the teachings of our noble religion, find ourselves today, unfortunately on the precipice of disaster.

The region of the Gulf, which encompasses the very heartland of Islam is threatened by a violent conflagration which would in its wake bring unimaginable destruction and sufferings to the Islamic nations and peoples and what is more, after the fires have burnt out, render desolate this sacred land and Islamic nations transforming into cinders the expectations and legitimate aspirations of the Muslims of the world to fashion for themselves and for mankind a glorious destiny.

By conforming to the dictates of Islam and bearing in mind the Medina Community, Muslims have for centuries happily lived together, by cultivating love, harmony, fraternity and solidarity amongst themselves. For centuries they adhered to the vision of building, on the foundations of their rich civilization and proud heritage, a brilliant future for themselves and for all the peoples on earth while trying to work with faith and energy for the future of a world promising justice, peace and progress for all.

/...

We could fathom and understand from this fact the pain and bitterness being felt by these millions of Muslims in the face of the division in the Islamic ranks. Similarly, we could measure and share the acute anguish which is being felt by the peoples of the Gulf region, the Muslims and entire world faced with the somber perspectives appearing on our horizon.

At this time of bitterness and anguish for all the Muslims, at this hour of all the dangers posed to the peoples of the Gulf region, Islamic nation and the world as a whole, I appeal to Your Excellency to act, the soonest, to prevent the outbreak of a war which would lead to incalculable consequences for our present and future.

For the sake of the lofty values enshrined in Islam, for the sake of higher interests of the Islamic nation and in the interest of world peace, I call upon Your Excellency to order without any delay the complete and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from the territory of Kuwait. It is an exigency of justice requested by all Muslims, millions of men and women the world over. It is a duty to be fulfilled in the name of Islam towards our peoples, future generations and humanity.

In total submission to Allah the Almighty and in compliance with the precepts of our noble religion, we are prepared to work in the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to resolve the disputes, which arose and to help restore the climate of understanding, harmony and co-operation, which always characterized the Iraqi-Kuwaiti relations and, what is more, the relations between the countries and peoples of the Gulf region.

May Your Excellency have the strength and courage to act in this direction.

We beseech Allah Almighty to guide us to the Right Path.

UNITED
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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/929
S/22102
17 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 153
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 17 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward to you the texts of a Declaration of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria (annex I) and a Declaration of the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria (annex II) in connection with the crisis in the Persian Gulf region. I would very much appreciate it if you would have this letter and its annexes circulated as documents of the General Assembly, under agenda item 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dimitar KOSTOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
to the United Nations

ANNEX I

Declaration of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria in connection with the commencement of military action in the Persian Gulf region, issued on 17 January 1991

The Republic of Bulgaria has learned with deep concern of the start of military action in the Persian Gulf region. Our anxiety is increased by the fact that this conflict is unfolding close to our country.

The responsibility for the outbreak of the conflict lies entirely with the Iraqi leadership, which, by occupying and annexing Kuwait, has flagrantly violated the basic principles and norms of international law, has refused to take into account the clearly expressed opinion of the international community to implement the respective resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations, including resolution 678 (1990), and to respond constructively to the numerous peace initiatives.

All options for finding a peaceful outcome of the crisis in the Persian Gulf have been explored. Thus, the commencement of military action, despite the great risks involved, is a radical but necessary measure to guarantee international peace. It is envisaged in the Charter of the United Nations and is particularly appropriate when the security of small nations is at stake.

Throughout the time following Kuwait's illegal occupation by Iraq the Republic of Bulgaria has actively supported the efforts of the international community aimed at finding a political solution of the conflict. Bulgaria supported all resolutions of the Security Council on this matter by joining unconditionally in the international embargo against Iraq, despite the heavy price it has had to pay and the fact that this has made it even more difficult for the country to emerge from the severe economic crisis.

The Republic of Bulgaria is availing itself of this opportunity to yet again emphasize its consistent position that peace in the region cannot be achieved without a complete and unconditional Iraqi withdrawal from the State of Kuwait, without the restoration of its sovereignty, territorial integrity and legitimate Government in accordance with the resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations.

The Republic of Bulgaria is thus supportive of the actions of the multinational forces for meeting those goals and is again reiterating its readiness, expressed on a number of occasions, to act with all means in implementation of the decision of the Grand National Assembly of Bulgaria.

At the same time it is our hope that the military action will be over soon, to be followed by steps for resolving the disputed issues between Iraq and Kuwait by diplomatic means.

The Republic of Bulgaria is and will continue to be a friend of the Arab peoples, including the people of Iraq. It will continue to work in the future for promoting mutually advantageous co-operation with all States in the region.

ANNEX II

Declaration of the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria, issued on 16 January 1991

The deadline for Iraq's complete and unconditional implementation of the respective resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations has passed on 15 January. The Iraqi forces had until yesterday to withdraw from Kuwait as a first and necessary condition for restoring the pre-2 August 1990 status.

The Republic of Bulgaria notes with deep regret and concern that until now the consistent efforts of the international community aimed at finding a just and peaceful solution to the crisis have yielded no positive results. The Iraqi leadership has not given up its unrealistic policy and is continuing not to observe the basic principles and norms of international law. It is becoming increasingly likely that the highly unstable and explosive situation in the Persian Gulf may bring about a military conflict of unpredictable magnitude and consequences. Our concern is heightened by our country's close proximity to that region.

The Bulgarian Government is urgently calling once again upon the leaders of Iraq to conceive the gravity of the situation, to show statesmanly wisdom and feeling of responsibility and to take immediately the necessary measures to implement the resolutions of the Security Council. At the same time we are aware that at this critical time political composure and continuing diplomatic efforts are needed for finding a peaceful way out of this crisis. Bulgaria is prepared to assist in meeting these goals.

The Republic of Bulgaria is availing itself of this opportunity to yet again emphasize its consistent position that peace in the region cannot be achieved without a complete and unconditional Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwaiti territory, without the restoration of its sovereignty, territorial integrity and legitimate Government.

We would like to remind of our full support for the respective resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations, including resolution 678 (1990).

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/930
18 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH AND FRENCH

Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 28 and 110

THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PRINCIPLE OF PERIODIC AND GENUINE ELECTIONS

Letter dated 15 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith, in English and French, the text of the statement on the situation in Guatemala which was issued on 14 January 1991 by the European Community and its 12 member States (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 28 and 110.

(Signed) Jean FEYDER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement on Guatemala issued on 14 January 1991 by the Twelve States members of the European Community

On the occasion of his investiture in the presidency of the Republic of Guatemala, the Community and its member States address to the President elect, Mr. Jorge Serrano, their congratulations on his election and their best wishes for his success in the important task that is now entrusted to him.

The Community and its member States, who feel a particular solidarity with Guatemala, strongly hope that peace can be restored in this country through internal reconciliation, and in the full respect of human rights.

The democratic character of the elections and the first transfer of power from one civilian president to another in the recent history of Guatemala are important and encouraging signs for the peace process and the consolidation of democratic institutions in Central America.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/931
18 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH AND FRENCH

Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 35 and 153

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 17 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith, in English and French, the declaration on the Gulf question which was issued today by the European Community and its 12 member States (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 35 and 153.

(Signed) Jean FEYDER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Declaration on the Gulf conflict

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Twelve and the Commission, assembled in meeting in Paris, express their deep regret that use of force was necessary to force Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait and, in order to re-establish international legality. It falls upon the Iraqi authorities only to stop the conflict which has just broken out by complying with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

The European Community and its member States have spared no effort to allow for a peaceful solution. These efforts as well as those undertaken by other members of the international community, including Arab countries as well as by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, have met no reaction whatsoever from the part of Saddam Hussein.

Under the present circumstances, the Community and its member States reiterate their firm support of the objectives contained in the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. They express their solidarity, in accordance with these resolutions, with those member States and other members of the international community the forces of which are involved in the re-establishment of legality.

They express their hope that the conflict, which just begun, will be of a short duration. To this end, they strongly urge the Iraqi leadership to withdraw immediately and fully its forces out of Kuwait, thus avoiding further victims and destruction.

Deeply attached to the universal values of the Charter of the United Nations, the Community and its member States reaffirm their commitment to contribute actively, once international legality is re-established, to assure, in dignity and security, a future of peace, stability and development in a framework of social justice and solidarity, for all the peoples of the region. The Iraqi aggression against another Arab State cannot jeopardize the traditional links of friendship between the Community and the Arab countries.

To this effect, they will develop a global approach towards the region through a renewed Mediterranean policy, a relaunched Euro-Arab dialogue and a reinforced co-operation with all the Gulf Co-operation Council and the Arab Maghreb Union and all countries concerned of the region. They pronounce themselves for increased stability based on principles of security and co-operation. In this context, they count on the aid of the wealthiest countries of the region.

The Community and its member States renew their full commitment for the convening of an international peace Conference on the Middle East, at an appropriate moment. It is evident that this Conference shall need a serious preparation.

As an immediate issue, the Commission will rapidly implement humanitarian assistance programmes in favour of all victims of the Gulf war. Furthermore, the Commission will implement financial assistance to the countries most affected by the applications of the embargo against Iraq.

UNITED
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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/932
S/22108
18 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 86 and 153
SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER
RELIEF ASSISTANCE
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED
OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT
VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE
UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 16 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued on 14 January 1991 by the Chief Cabinet Secretary of the Government of Japan on its decision to provide an emergency contribution of $US 38 million for assistance to evacuees in the areas near the borders between Iraq and neighbouring States (see annex).

Japan has made this decision in response to the appeal of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) of 11 January, in order to fulfil its international responsibilities and provide humanitarian assistance to evacuees.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 86 and 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yoshio HATANO
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of
Japan to the United Nations

ANNEX

Press statement made by Chief Cabinet Secretary of the Government of Japan concerning emergency aid for evacuees in the Middle East

(Outline)

1. With the deadline set by Security Council resolution 678 (1990) for the implementation of the series of relevant United Nations resolutions, including the one demanding Iraq's immediate unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait drawing near, new evacuees are moving into and staying in the area near the border between Iraq and neighbouring States, while some have already entered Jordan.

2. Under these circumstances, the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO), representing related international organizations, estimated that $US 175 million will be needed for the relief and repatriation of the projected 400,000 evacuees who are expected to arrive in the neighbouring States of Iraq in the early stage, and appealed to the international community on 11 January for a contribution of $US 38 million required to meet the start-up costs.

3. The Government of Japan, in order to fulfil the international responsibility expected of Japan and to provide humanitarian assistance to these evacuees, has decided to provide an emergency contribution of $US 38 million (approximately 5.1 billion yen) to UNDRO, an amount equivalent to the entire start-up cost. In addition, the Government of Japan has already announced its intention to donate 6,000 blankets to UNDRO in case the influx of evacuees into the neighbouring States of Iraq increases.

4. The Government of Japan has already provided over $US 22 million in emergency aid to related international organizations and Governments for the relief of evacuees resulting from the Gulf crises.

UNITED
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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/933
S/22109
18 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 153
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION
OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE
CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 18 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement issued on 17 January 1991 by the Government of the Republic of Hungary regarding the developments in the Persian Gulf region (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) André ERDÓS
Ambassador

ANNEX

Statement of the Government of the Republic of Hungary, issued on 17 January 1991

The Government of the Republic of Hungary, on the basis of Hungary's historical experience and as a matter of principle, does not accept actions in flagrant violation of the sovereignty of individual States, rejects all forms of aggression and firmly stands for the maintenance or, if necessary, the restoration of international legal order.

On the basis of these principles, Hungary has deeply condemned the aggression against the State of Kuwait in August 1990 and the annexation of that country. Hungary has been committed to and has fully implemented all United Nations Security Council resolutions regarding the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait in the sincere hope that the united stand of the international community will compel the Iraqi leadership to dismantle the consequences of aggression.

The Iraqi leadership, in defiance of the will of the international community, refused to adhere to the norms and stipulations of international law. Up until the final deadline set by the United Nations Security Council, Iraq had shown no readiness to withdraw its troops from Kuwait and had given no indication at all that it intended to seek a peaceful settlement of the conflict. Diplomatic endeavours had proved to be unsuccessful and all opportunities to find a negotiated settlement had been, in the general view, exhausted. Thus, the international - and, among them, Arab - forces deployed in the region have become compelled to make use of the authorization of the United Nations Security Council to uphold international law and employ all means at their disposal to enforce the mandatory resolutions of the world organization.

The Hungarian people are aware that war and armed confrontation are an undesirable course of action, a necessary evil even in the most righteous cause. They are, however, also conscious of the lessons of history: aggression must be arrested, aggressors must be stopped even at the cost of sacrifices.

The Government of the Republic of Hungary sincerely hopes that the military operations aimed at the liberation of Kuwait will remain limited both in time and scope and will lead to the restoration of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kuwait and the security of all countries in the region with the least loss of life and damage. In keeping with its possibilities, Hungary is also contributing to these efforts and all the steps it has taken are aimed only at the elimination of aggression and its consequences and are in no way directed against the people of Iraq.

The Republic of Hungary is confident that, in the wake of an early and just solution to the crisis, new opportunities will open up to restore and enhance co-operation with Iraq and the other States in the region, as well as to create a security system encompassing the entire region and to solve decades-old conflicts.

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/934
S/22113
18 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 35 and 153
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 17 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement made by Mr. Esmat Abdel Meguid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, to the Arab and Foreign Affairs and National Security Committee of the Shura Council on 17 January 1991. I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 35 and 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amre M. MOUSSA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement made on 17 January 1991 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt to the Arab and Foreign Affairs and National Security Committee of the Shura Council

As I speak to you, I address you in the midst of crucial and delicate circumstances in our region in which the eyes of the whole world are upon us and events are escalating and detericrating with great rapidity. I have to inform you that, early this morning, I was in touch with a number of ministers for foreign affairs of friendly and brotherly countries so that we could exchange information, consult together and co-ordinate our positions on coping with the effects of this major occurrence.

It may be useful for me to present to you our analysis of the situation and our view of its various aspects and antecedents up to the stage to which matters had developed by the time the operation to liberate Kuwait began early today, 17 January 1991.

Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on 2 August 1990 was an event unprecedented in the history of the Arab nation and indeed in the contemporary era following the Second World War. For the first time, an Arab State was invading another Arab State, occupying its territory, removing its legitimate system of Government by force of arms and then announcing its annexation. In doing so, it established a dangerous international precedent violating inter-Arab and international covenants. Matters did not stop there, but a far-reaching disturbance was brought about in the balance of regional security in the strategically vital Middle East region.

This Committee has been in the forefront in monitoring events in the Gulf from the time the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait took place. It issued a statement on 4 August 1990 which truly captured the pulse of the masses in their condemnation of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and in their demand for an immediate and complete withdrawal of Iraqi forces. Then, on 22 August, a statement by the General Committee was issued supporting the historic and civilized position adopted by President Hosni Mubarak in addressing the crisis and calling upon Iraq to respond to appeals for peace out of a regard for higher Arab interests and in order to save the people of Iraq and the peoples of the region from the scourge of war.

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and Iraq's concentration of forces on the Kuwaiti-Saudi borders created a situation of concern and a sense of insecurity which impelled Saudi Arabia and some of the Gulf States, in exercise of their inherent right to legitimate self-defence, to request the aid and military assistance of their brothers and friends. That right is established as a principle by article 2 of the Joint Defence and Economic Co-operation Treaty between the States of the Arab League, by article 6 of the Pact of the League of Arab States and by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, it is one long established in international law, and it was reaffirmed by the Arab Summit Conference resolution adopted by the meeting held at Cairo on 10 August 1990.

Egypt responded to the request made by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates in the light of its clear understanding of the challenges and dangers involved and in the context of the responsibility that it bears at the inter-Arab and international levels, given that the Egyptian forces in question provide a shield for the Arab nation as a whole, are helping a brother and are deterring an aggressor.

President Mubarak stressed the leading role being played by the valiant Egyptian armed forces when he said to the People's Assembly and the Shura Council on 15 December 1990: "It was natural for us to respond to the appeal of the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ... to take part in the defence of this fellow Arab country ... and of all the Arab peoples of the Gulf region, regardless of the challenges, for this is our mission and our assignment, and we shall assist our brother and repel the deceit of the aggressors".

That courageous stance against aggression was accompanied by assiduous and intensive Egyptian diplomatic activity, particularly in the framework of the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the United Nations, in an endeavour to do the utmost to avert a devastating war.

In the context of intensive diplomatic efforts, many leaders and eminent personalities in Arab and foreign countries made visits to Baghdad in the attempt to persuade the Iraqi President to listen to the voice of reason and abandon inflexible positions that had no grounds in legitimacy or in law.

Most regrettably, all such efforts and meetings once again confirmed Iraq's position of rejecting the will of the international community.

Following the failure of the Geneva meeting between the United States Secretary of State and his Iraqi counterpart, the Secretary-General of the United Nations went to Baghdad with a mandate from the entire international community to transmit a clear message calling on the Iraqi President to make amends and to choose peace.

Although the Secretary-General announced that his mission had failed because of the intransigence of the Iraqi President, he nevertheless made one last appeal to the Iraqi President calling upon him to withdraw and to banish from the region the spectre of war.

Given Egypt's commitment to its deeply rooted positions of principle, the desire of the Egyptian leadership to preserve Arab solidarity and an appreciation of historical responsibility, President Mubarak spared no effort in striving to contain the tension and the escalation between Iraq and Kuwait. He addressed some 26 sincere and friendly appeals to the Iraqi President since tension began to mount, from the statement of the President of the Republic issued on 20 July 1990 up to that of 15 January 1991 in which he stated that we have no quarrel with the people of Iraq or with the Iraqi President and that the positions we have adopted stem from a profound faith in peace. He sincerely advised the Iraqi President to decide for peace in order to protect the people of Iraq, all the Arab peoples and

all of those peoples which have become involved in the crisis from the disasters of war and from its devastating consequences. A statement concerning these appeals has been deposited with the Committee.

Following this detailed presentation of the efforts made by Egyptian, Arab and international diplomacy, which continued for some six months and which foundered on the rock of the Iraqi President's intransigence and his peremptory rejection of all initiatives and all appeals to restore peace and avert war, I have to tell you that early today the international community proceeded to implement the provisions of the Security Council resolutions relating to the use of force. That force was primarily directed against Iraqi military positions, and it does not have the purpose of destroying Iraq but of liberating Kuwait.

The information available indicates that there is yet time to avoid greater damage should Iraq proceed to a full and immediate withdrawal from Kuwait.

In these crucial moments, the Arab Republic of Egypt reaffirms the demand that it has made since the beginning of the crisis, namely that Iraq must comply immediately with Security Council resolutions reflecting the will of the international community.

Accordingly, Iraqi forces must withdraw from Kuwait fully and unconditionally, and Kuwait must be liberated and its legitimate authority restored, God willing, to the performance of its positive role in the Arab and international structure.

Our region has the greatest need for peace and for the allocation of its capacities to reconstruction and development for the sake of a better future for all our peoples.

In conclusion, I can only beseech the Most High, the Almighty, to safeguard and protect Egypt and to bestow upon it security and safety.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/935
21 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH AND FRENCH

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 28

THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

Letter dated 17 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith, in English and French, the text of the statement on El Salvador which was issued on 16 January 1991 by the European Community and its 12 member States (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 28.

(Signed) Jean FEYDER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement on El Salvador issued on 16 January 1991 by the Twelve States members of the European Community

The Community and its member States are following with the greatest attention the efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General, fully supported by the Security Council, to reach a negotiated settlement of the conflict in El Salvador.

They pay tribute to the Secretary-General for the significant progress already achieved since the resumption of dialogue last April, under his auspices, between the Government of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Martí de Liberación Nacional (FMLN).

They welcome the decision of the parties to entrust the Secretary-General with a more active role and give their firm support to the efforts of Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar to advance the negotiating process.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/936
S/22118
21 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 21 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to convey the following:

1. The Government and people of the Republic of the Sudan are deeply shocked and concerned at the outbreak and continuation of a massive and destructive war between Iraq and the multinational forces in the Gulf area.

2. The Government of the Sudan condemns the resort to war as a means of settling disputes as this contravenes the Charter of the United Nations and exposes international peace and security to great dangers, especially in the volatile Middle East region.

3. The Government of the Sudan appeals to the international community to seek an immediate cease-fire in order to create the appropriate and suitable atmosphere to proceed with negotiations leading to a comprehensive peaceful settlement of all outstanding problems in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions.

4. The position of the Government of the Sudan with respect to the Gulf crisis has always been to seek a peaceful solution of the crisis within the Arab and Muslim framework without foreign intervention and resort to hostilities.

I would be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 35 and 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Joseph LAGU
Permanent Representative

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/937
S/22123
21 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH AND FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 35 and 153
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 21 January 1991 addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations

I have the honour to enclose the text, in French and English, of the statement issued on 18 January 1991 by the European Community and its 12 member States following the Iraqi attack against Israel.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 35 and 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jean FEYDER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement issued on 18 January 1991 by the Twelve States members of the European Community following the Iraqi attack against Israel

By launching a non-provoked and entirely unjustified missile attack on Israeli territory last night, Saddam Hussein is aiming, through a cynical and deliberate provocation, to draw Israel into the Gulf conflict.

The Community and its member States strongly condemn this attack, which represents a further violation of international law by the Iraqi authorities.

They express their sympathy to the Israeli people.

Recalling that Israel's right to security constitutes one of the fundamental principles of the policy of the Community and its member States in the Middle East, they do hope that Israel will not be drawn into the conflict.

Under the present circumstances, every restraint displayed by Israel must be interpreted as a sign of strength and not of weakness.